GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7014
ANSWERED ON:13.05.2002
INDIRA GANDHI CENTRE FOR NATIONAL ART
JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indira Gandhi Centre for National Art is engaged in creating historical and cultural confusion as reported in Rashtriya Sahara dated March 26, 2002;

(b) if so, whether there are a number of misleading informations in the recently published issue of Institute`s New letter `Vihangam`;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the action taken by the Government to check such confusions?`

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a) to (d) An article entitled `Rare Atharvaveda Manuscript returns home in CD-ROM` was published in the January-February volume of the Vihangama, the newsletter of Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts.According to the IGNCA, a mention has been made in the article about the date of the origin of the manuscript of a certain recension of Atharvaveda, as 900 B.C. The date mentioned in fact refers to the original date of composition of the Atharvaveda and not the date of origin of the physical manuscript.

The matter has been taken note of by the authorities in IGNCA and aclarification is being issued in the forthcoming issue of Vihangama.

The Rashtriya Sahara who reported the matter on 26.3.2002 has also published a clarification issued by IGNCA on 25th April, 2002.